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The muezzin summons the faithful to Allendorf's mosque

In the township of Allendorf, near Marburg, in the heart of Hesse, the customary sound of the bells from the Catholic church mingle with another sound, which is strange to the Federal Republic.

In this 15,000-strong town there is a green-painted barrack building with a slender tower of steel tubing. Here the muezzin calls the followers of Allah to prayer.

The touch of the Orient in the middle of Hesse comes by courtesy of the Fritz Winter iron and steel works.

One thousand and ninety Turkish *Gastarbeiter* (migrant workers) are in the employ of the firm, so Fritz Winter and company provided them with a mosque.

The building cannot compare with the splendour of its oriental equivalents. But despite the external plainness of this Islamic temple it is a very unusual building.

It is the first mosque that has ever been built by a Federal Republic industrial concern, so that its workers from the East could practise their religion.

There are three Mohammedan lay priests, who are foundry workers by profession, but who combine their job with the role of muezzin.

They summon their fellow believers to worship not with bells, but with their voices. This task has been lightened by science, however, and the muezzin amplifies his voice with a megaphone.

His cry goes out at noon and at sunset. Unfortunately local German inhabitants are not too keen to have the wonders of the East on their doorstep. The mosque is surrounded by detached and semi-detached houses and the people who live in them have already complained several times to the foundry that the muezzin has been disturbing their peace.

Werner Reuber, 40, a sales director of the firm which employs 2,900 men in all has treated the complaints calmly. "The locals don't get in a paddy when the church bells ring!" he said.

One of the locals retorted: "There's a bit of difference between church bells and this warbling from the 1,001 Nights".

The managers of the foundry feel sure that the problem will solve itself when local residents get used to the mosque and the muezzin. "It's all new to them," Herr Reuber said, "the mosque was only consecrated on 18 October."

At the consecration ceremony Islamic custom was strictly followed and four fatted sheep were sacrificed.

The history of Allendorf and its Mohammedan population began in 1963, when Winter's foundry employed the first of its Turkish *Gastarbeiter*.

Werner Reuber said: "We asked around what nationality was best for working in foundries and everyone was of the opinion that Turks were the best foundry workers."

Since then the firm has built for its Turkish contingent, which makes up 38 per cent of its staff four hostels, each of which has a prayer room.

Herr Reuber recalls: "At first the question of religion was quite difficult. The workers brought their prayer mats with them to the factory floor.

"When noon struck or the sun went down they would down tools, stop their machines, roll out the prayer mats and start to pray. This went on until the head of the Islamic religion in Istanbul announced that foreign workers in this country were excused the full rigours of their religion. From then on the Turks only had to pray at the requisite times if they were not on shift."

Winter's Turks come almost exclusively from the historic region of East Anatolia, where the Koran is obeyed almost to the letter. In their new home they lacked a religious centre where they could meet.

In the spring of 1968 at the works committee meeting three plans were put forward for discussion.

Firstly it was suggested that a café should be built for the Turks, secondly someone suggested building a mosque and thirdly it was proposed to build a café cum mosque.

After a short discussion the third idea was thrown out since it was considered unseemly to combine a place of worship with a place of amusement.

In a straight vote between the café and mosque the latter received ninety per cent of the votes.

The question of financing this project which was likely to cost 120,000 Marks even if the furnishing were modest was quickly solved when the 1,090 Turks decided that they would no longer take part in office outings if the money they saved went towards the mosque.

This raised 55,000 Marks within three years. So impressed were the foundry bosses that they have decided to provide the rest.

In spring 1970 the foundations were dug and the building of conrete and wood began to rise. The minaret is constructed of steel tubing. The chief mullah calls the faithful from the four Turkish hostels through a megaphone.

The interior and exterior of the mosque is in green, the Prophet's colour. The prayer hall has wall-to-wall green carpeting. A large green curtain separates the women from the men (166 Turks live with their families in Allendorf).

A fountain for washing the feet (mass produced in this country) guarantees that the Prophet's commandments are adhered to. The Turks welcome their German colleagues in the mosque as long as the Islamic customs are kept. It is forbidden to enter the mosque wearing shoes.

The interior was designed almost exclusively by the Turks themselves.

Werner Reuber reports: "The firm helped out wherever it could. For instance, we put one of our workshops at their disposal complete with machinery."

Twice a day the mullah calls the followers of the Prophet and the mosque is without doubt the best attended place of worship in the town. This is a clear indication to other German firms employing foreign workers that *Gastarbeiter* cannot live on bread alone but need to be able to live up to their customs and traditions.

Walter Gutermuth

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 29 October 1970)

The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Polish Treaty ends quarter century of enmity

The signing of the treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the People's Republic of Poland is not an occasion for unbounded jubilation.

It does not mean that we have at long last undone all the harm that came from Hitler's attack on Germany's eastern neighbour in September 1939.

It does mean, however, that this country has come a second step closer to reconciliation with the nations of eastern Europe.

Following the treaty for the mutual renunciation of the threat and use of force signed on 12 August 1970 by the Federal Republic and the Soviet Union in Moscow this treaty, the first step along the way to normalisation of relations with Poland, was an obvious consequence of policies for detente between the Federal Republic and the communist East Bloc.

Life will be easier as a result of it for many Germans who have lived since the War with Polish citizenship and now see the prospect of fulfilling their wish to move to the Federal Republic and become Germans again.

The great poet of the Polish language, Julian Tuwin, wrote a prayer in the last war that an abyss might open between his country and the evil neighbour in the West. The abyss opened up and only now is it beginning to close.

Sceptics will point out that very little has actually changed as a result of the treaty with Poland.

As far as the question of frontiers is concerned what was at first a right enforced by coercion and later a right which was respected by the Federal Republic because this country had become accustomed to it is now a right that is signed and sealed in a binding treaty.

The step by the free part of Germany was preceded by East Berlin in the Görlitz Pact with Warsaw signed on 6 July 1950. This makes the claim in the name of the whole of the German people that the Oder-Neisse line should finally be recognised as the western frontier of Poland.

Although the only German frontier with Poland is that of the German Democratic Republic Warsaw was never content with this treaty signed by the communist overlords of the eastern part of this country. The Poles had always called for a clear definition of the Federal Republic's attitude to the frontier question.

This declaration has now been made inasmuch as the Federal Republic is empowered to speak on questions of international law.

The Federal Republic has spoken out and done so unambiguously; the Polish government has accepted this.

It would be vastly overestimating the powers of our policies to consider this as a fundamental change of the policies affecting the rest of the world.

The Federal Republic is and remains in the Western Alliance and this new treaty has been concluded with the approval of our allies.

The People's Republic of Poland remains a member of the Warsaw Pact and in the treaty with Bonn the same fundamental principles were adhered to as applied on the question of Poland's frontiers when the Moscow Treaty was signed.

Nevertheless in this bilateral treaty between Bonn and Warsaw there has been a change in procedure, which for two decades has applied to all matters concerning the fixing of relations between the East Bloc and the West.

Leading politicians in the West wanted a collective peace treaty to be signed between this country and the communist States in the East.

On the other hand the communist States of the East were expected to move jointly following the directives that were issued in Moscow for the solution of relations between West and East.

Instead of this both sides have moved virtually off their own bat in the question of making friendly gestures towards their neighbours. This country and the various satellites of Russia have used their freedom to negotiate and sign treaties with each other.

Obviously no one seriously expects that one of the countries allied to the Soviet Union or the West will abuse this freedom of movement to step out of line and call its own tune.

These separate moves by the Federal Republic and the communist States of the East, far from hampering the arms limitations talks between the major powers, are more likely to help them along the way.

The idea of a European security con-

Continued on page 2



Bonn's Foreign Minister Walter Scheel (left) and Polish Premier Jozef Cyrankiewicz in Warsaw (Photo: AP)

IN THIS ISSUE

The first five pages of this issue of THE GERMAN TRIBUNE are devoted to the events leading up to the initialling of the treaty between this country and Poland on 18 November 1970 in Warsaw. An official translation of the text of the treaty is also included.

Scheel negotiations usher in era of reconciliation with Poland

"Good relationships with Poland are particularly important for us. It is a cornerstone of our policies towards the East. Reconciliation with the East is our moral and political duty." This is Chancellor Willy Brandt's strategy and he has now taken the first step along the road to fulfilling it.

The two Foreign Ministers Walter Scheel and Stefan Jedrychowski have initialled in Warsaw "the treaty for providing the bases for normalisation of relations between the People's Republic of Poland and the Federal Republic of Germany."

Now the consequences of the negotiations between Bonn and Warsaw culminating in this treaty must be weighed up.

The title of the treaty is complicated enough and the programme of plans connected with the new treaty is likely to be every bit as complicated.

The preamble and five articles of the treaty sign and seal the result of long, difficult negotiations between the two countries.

The signing of the treaty which will soon follow the initialling does not signal the completion of the normalisation process. There are psychological barriers in both peoples thrown up by the past. There was the horrific work of destruction carried out by Nazi Germany, the expulsion of the Poles and the bitter loss of their homeland.

The cleft that has been opened up between the two peoples as a result of these events will only be closed at a very slow rate.

The present-day "realities" of which there was so much talk in Warsaw can also provide barriers to normalisation of relations. Poland and the Federal Republic have differing social systems and belong to a different system of alliances.

Warsaw and Bonn have certain duties connected with these alliances which must be respected for the sake of both sides. Thus it will be the duty of both governments to feel their way carefully towards those spheres in which agreement and cooperation will be possible.

In different ways, however, the treaty gives Warsaw and Bonn immediate gains. Poland now has an assurance in black and white from the Federal Republic that its frontiers are guaranteed even through there is a reservation on the Federal Republic's side.

As a result of this treaty the Federal Republic gains new prestige. At long last our desire for reconciliation with our neighbours in the East has been expressed in concrete terms, and the room for manoeuvre of the Federal Republic's diplomatic service within Eastern Europe has been extended.

Recognition of the Oder-Neisse line partly demanded by Moscow and partly fought for to give the Poles a sense of solidarity – was one of the greatest obstacles on Bonn's route to better relations with the East.

Now that this obstacle has been overcome positive effects in the relationship of the Federal Republic to other Iron Curtain countries must and will materialise.

It is painful for us that these adcantages can only be gained by surrendering former German territories and particularly so for those who once lived there. But 25 years have passed since the War was lost. There have been two decades of vain attempts to bring about improvements in the decisions of the victorious powers and in the recognition that the situation between West and East would never be allowed to develop into a serious conflict in the heart of Europe about the question of the Oder-Neisse line.

Faced with these realities we had no

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Text of the Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the People's Republic of Poland

The Federal Republic of Germany
and
the People's Republic of Poland

CONSIDERING that more than 25 years have passed since the end of the Second World War of which Poland became the first victim and which inflicted great suffering on the nations of Europe,

CONSCIOUS that in both countries a new generation has meanwhile grown up to whom a peaceful future should be secured,

DESIRING to establish durable foundations for peaceful coexistence and the development of normal and good relations between them,

ANXIOUS to strengthen peace and security in Europe,

AWARE that the inviolability of frontiers and respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of all States in Europe within their present frontiers are a basic condition for peace,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

Article I

(1) The Federal Republic of Germany and the People's Republic of Poland state in mutal agreement that the existing boundary line the course of which is laid down in Chapter IX of the Decisions of the Potsdam Conference of 2 August 1945 as running from the Baltic Sea immediately west of Swinemunde, and thence along the Oder River to the confluence of the western Neisse River and along the western Neisse to the Czechoslovak frontier, shall constitute the western State frontier of the People's Republic of Poland.

(2) They reaffirm the inviolability of their existing frontiers now and in the future and undertake to respect each other's territorial integrity without restriction.

(3) They declare that they have no territorial claims whatsoever against each other and that they will not assert such claims in the future.

Article II

(1) The Federal Republic of Germany and the People's Republic of Poland shall in their mutual relations as well as in matters of ensuring European and international security be guided by the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations.

(2) Accordingly they shall, pursuant to Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter of the United Nations, settle all their disputes exclusively by peaceful means and refrain from any threat or use of force in matters affecting European and international security and in their mutual relations.

Article III

(1) The Federal Republic of Germany and the People's Republic of Poland shall take further steps towards full normalization and a comprehensive development of their mutual relations of which the present Treaty shall form the solid foundation.

(2) They agree that a broadening of their co-operation in the sphere of economic, scientific, technological, cultural and other relations is in their mutual interest.

Article IV

The present Treaty shall not affect any bilateral or multilateral international arrangements previously concluded by either Contracting Party or concerning them.

Article V

The present Treaty is subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the date of exchange of the instruments of ratification which shall take place in Bonn

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties have signed the present Treaty.

DONE at Warsaw on..... in two originals, each in the German and Polish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the
Federal Republic of Germany

For the
People's Republic of Poland

Era of reconciliation with Poland

Continued from page 1

choice but to come to a mature decision that compromise and acceptance of the situation is the only answer. There is no point in rooting politics and diplomacy too much in the soils of the past and forgetting the future.

Such ideas may prevail on the domestic policy scene in the Federal Republic after the initialling of the treaty with Poland. Without first viewing the document and perusing the text of the treaty with Warsaw it is emotional and irrational to appeal to President Heinemann to block the treaty.

Such action on the part of the expellees is designed rather to exhaust an already strained domestic policy scene rather than to initiate a mater-of-fact discussion.

There may be a certain amount of speculation that Bonn will have to honour this treaty with additional financial means. But in this case there is no legally backed demand for any payment by one state to the other. A hurried word from the Bonn government is called for to dispel doubts.

Foreign Minister Walter Scheel said in Warsaw that however much attention was given to a treaty between the two countries no document could ever replace the tie between the Federal Republic and Poland that would be forged by an atmosphere of friendship, security and mutual trust.

It is to be hoped that these words will soon become deeds. *Heinz Verfürth*

(Handelsblatt, 18 November 1970)

Polish Treaty ends enmity

Continued from page 1

ference is likely to be promoted by being unburdened of matters of conflict between the Federal Republic and Poland, the Federal Republic and Czechoslovakia and the victorious powers in Berlin, with the Soviets one side of the Wall and the British, French and Americans on the other.

If inter-German rivalries and enmity can also be swept out of the way this will be another major barrier removed from the path towards a European security conference.

People are no longer thinking of a European security conference as the opening blow of a bitter battle for a stable situation in the Continent. It is now being considered as the crowning glory of all the efforts, now successful, to solve the individual problems of the Continent. This is surely a more realistic attitude.

The main yardstick for a judgment of this kind must be the results expected of plans to secure peace within Europe by removing localised enmities. In addition to this there is also the greater freedom of movement of the individual member-states of the two major political blocs when it comes to acceptance of the individual interests of these states.

The Brandt-Scheel government is able to carry out more policies on a national scale than preceeding governments of the Federal Republic. This is not necessarily a privilege they have earned so much as a result of the development of bloc policies. In the West the main reason for the greater freedom of individual countries is the United States' need to be freed from large-scale commitments in Europe.

Even those opponents of the present Bonn government in this country cannot seriously deny that Willy Brandt and Walter Scheel are taking full advantage of this extra freedom of movement.

The Jozef Cyrankiewicz and Stefan Jedrychowski government is also sailing through the green light. Moscow has given the Poles the go-ahead to come to a peaceful settlement with the Federal Republic off its own bat.

In negotiations with this country the only time when the Poles felt themselves tied in any way was when they saw their own national interests in any way jeopardised, not when they considered that they must tread warily for fear of stepping on the toes of their giant neighbour in the East.

The greatest difficulty that the Polish negotiators experienced was in the question of granting rights to ex-Germans in their midst to return to their homelands.

Historical factors affect the question of resettlement of those people living in Poland who still feel in their heart of hearts that they are Germans.

The old Polish Republic was before the partition a State containing many nationalities. Many of those who lived there were unable to consider themselves part of the nation as a whole.

The situation was not much different from this in the Polish Republic of the years between the two world wars.

The "bloc of minorities" in the Warsaw parliament was unacceptable to the Polish Patriots being a mixture of Germanic peoples, peoples of Ukrainian and White Russia extraction and the Zionist movement in Palestine. Nevertheless thirty per cent of Polish nationals backed this bloc.

This is all a thing of the past. As a result of the Second World War Poland has become a national state following the plunder of lands by the Russians in the East, the exodus of Germans to the West and the slaughter of most of the Jews by the National Socialists.

Memories of the past are, however, still alive. The Jewish population is stigmatised if it sympathises with the Israeli state and the remaining Germans have not always dared to admit their origins. Those Ukrainians remaining in Poland were re-settled.

It seems likely that many Poles would gladly follow millions of their predecessors who emigrated to America.

Getting on with the Poles is something that must be learned. A great sense of national pride and the thin skin of a nation that was martyred makes getting on with the Poles a difficult matter. It requires good will and tact. Then it can be of value to both sides and to the cause of peace in Europe.

Immanuel Birnbaum

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 19 November 1970)

Chancellor Brandt's statement on the German-Polish Treaty

Ladies and Gentleman, fellow countrymen!

The Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the People's Republic of Poland is a moving document for both peoples.

It is to close a dark chapter of European history. It is to open a new one. The time has come to draw a line and start anew.

More than thirty years have passed since the Second World War began with the German attack. The Polish people had to endure untold suffering.

The war and its consequences have imposed infinite sacrifices on both nations, on us Germans too. Now it is a matter of shaping a peaceful future for our two countries and peoples.

Those who have lost relatives, those who have been deprived of their homeland will find it hard to forget. And we others must understand and respect a burden they carry for all of us.

Yet, in this very hour, I must ask those of our countrymen who have been expelled from their native homes, not to persist in bitterness but to look ahead to the future.

It means a great deal that many families now have the prospect of receiving in their midst relatives from whom they have been separated for many years, and that it should be possible for them to revisit the birthplaces and graves of their ancestors in their former homeland.

I am in favour of the Treaty with the People's Republic of Poland because it creates the foundation for a peaceful future. It offers us the chance for understanding and cooperation.

To the Polish people the Treaty gives the assurance that they can live within secure boundaries. And as far as we are concerned, it should enable the principle of renunciation of force to be applied in all of Europe.

Only history will tell whether, as we hope, this will mark the beginning of real reconciliation such as, in the West, we have fortunately achieved with our neighbour France.

The Treaty does not of course mean the retrospective legitimation of injustice. It does, therefore, not mean the justification of expulsion.

What we want a quarter of a century after the war, is to make a serious attempt at putting a political end to the chain of injustice.

And as regards Poland's western frontier: there can be neither détente nor secure peace in Europe unless – and, by the way, without touching the rights of the Four Powers with regard to Germany – we proceed from the situation as it is, as it has now been for twenty-five years.

It is not that, today, our nation is abruptly required to make a sacrifice. It had to make it long ago as a consequence of Hitler's crimes.

My government says what most people in this country have been thinking in recent years.

And we can only hope that this will constitute an inspiring step towards a better Europe. A Europe where frontiers will no longer separate.

That is what the youth of our countries expects. We would wish to spare them, if possible, the burden of the past. We want to begin anew, for their sake.

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After burning the midnight oil – the Polish agreement

DIE ZEIT

The palace where negotiations between the Polish and Federal Republic delegations were held is at the end of a cul-de-sac in Warsaw. On the evening of 14 November it seemed as though the lights were going to stay on all night.

Were the seventeen members of the Bonn delegation and the fourteen Poles who had gathered together round the conference table for the final and decisive round of talks to succeed in "bringing to an end an anguishing historical epoch"?

This was the target reiterated by Foreign Minister Walter Scheel when, shortly after midnight, he emerged from a word in private with Stefan Jedrychowski, his Polish opposite number.

A virtually finished draft of both the treaty and accompanying documents had been made but bones of contention remained, including one that was particularly tricky as far as Poland was concerned. . .

"We cannot leave before clarifying this particular matter," a spokesman for the Bonn Foreign Office commented.

It was getting on for two a.m. before the freezing journalists and cameramen who were still waiting in a huddle outside the building were allowed into a room on the first floor immediately under the conference room.

"Aren't they tired out yet? " I asked Polish Foreign Ministry spokesman Mu-lik, who appeared on the stairs at twenty to three. "No, but they have laid down their arms," he answered with a smile.

Shortly before three a courier with a sealed envelope sped off to the central committee building, where the lights were still on in First Secretary Gomulka's office. On his return twenty minutes later the Bonn delegation withdrew to confer in private.

Polish Foreign Ministry planning department head Cyrek appeared on the stairs. Fourteen years ago as attaché in Berlin he conducted the first, disappointing talks with Bonn parliamentarians. "All is clear as far as we are concerned," he noted.

At 3.40 the pressmen, who were fighting their tiredness by engaging in a running debate, were asked to be quiet. At this early hour the walls were thin and nerves on edge.

Half on hour later all was indeed clear. At the conference table "complete agreement on the entire treaty" was reached.

The Oder Neisse frontier, the "course" of which was "laid down" in the 1945 Potsdam Agreement, to approximate the terms used in Article I of the treaty, will now and in future no longer be disputed by the Federal Republic of Germany.

Poland for its part is to acknowledge the exchange of notes in which Bonn affirms the Allies' rights over Germany as a whole.

Poland will also, and this was the hardest decision for Warsaw to reach, of its own free and sovereign will declare on signing the treaty its readiness to allow tens of thousands of Polish citizens who credibly consider themselves to have ties with Germany to emigrate West.

Once again the two Foreign Ministers withdrew for separate talks while the two delegations were served coffee and cognac for the last time.

Walter Scheel who had originally not intended finalising the terms of the treaty until a week later, after the Bavarian elections, no longer wanted to hesitate.

He knew that the terms of the agreement would be accepted by the overwhelming majority of sensible Germans even if they were leaked before being signed by the Chancellor, Willy Brandt, in December.

So he suggested to the Polish Foreign Minister that he return to Warsaw to finalise the treaty draft the following Wednesday, 18 November, – appropriately enough a Lutheran religious holiday known as the Day of Atonement – by which time the treaty would be bound in fair copy in both languages ready for signing.

Stefan Jedrychowski appreciated this gesture. When, at ten to five, the two men came slowly and seriously down the stairs they looked tired but relaxed.

There was no feeling of triumph. No matter how unequal moral and political factors may have been the determination to reach agreement had won the day.

Ten days beforehand Walter Scheel had been tempted to indulge in diplomatic sleight of hand as though the agreement were nothing out of the ordinary. The ex-PRO of his Free Democratic Party, who was in Warsaw as a journalsit, pointedly and dramatically warned him against visiting Auschwitz on the day of the Hesse local elections.

This visit, he was warned, would in all probability, indeed definitely, result in defeat for the Free Democrats and in due course to the collapse of the Bonn coalition with Willy Brandt's Social Democrats.

But with political acumen that added a statesmanlike note to Scheel's Rhenish optimism the Foreign Minister decided nonetheless to pay a visit to the memorial to shame and horror. It did not take the embittered comments made by many Poles at Krakow railway station, remarks such as "They didn't take us to Auschwitz in a buffet car," to realise how important the Bonn Foreign Minister's visit was both for the government in Warsaw and for the approval of the Polish general public.

At a juncture at which the man in the street in Poland was asking what remained to be discussed after nine months of preliminary talks about something as self evident as recognition of a frontier it was clear that as bitter as the terms of the treaty were for the Germans the Poles too were finding it none too easy to reach an acceptable agreement.

The scenes Polish television was able to screen on the evening of 15 November from Auschwitz, shots of Walter Scheel solemnly laying a wreath from the Bonn Federal government at the memorial, played a large part in increasing the Warsaw government's limited domestic policy leeway.

Two hours later on returning to the Polish capital Walter Scheel heard the good news of his party's electoral success in Hesse state and did not hesitate to say in words of one syllable what he had felt at Auschwitz.

"It is " he said, "a place one must have been to in order to judge what it must mean for Poland to establish normal relations with the Federal Republic."

At the stage, he frankly admitted, no decisive basis had been found on crucial points, even though informal talks had continued over the weekend.

Could the negotiations possibly fail at this late stage? Determined as both sides were to reach agreement, and convinced of their respective intentions on this point, they felt in a position to bargain for formal concessions from one another.

The "six-stage rocket," as the Polish government spokesman put it, had gone into lunar orbit and the decision to make a soft landing had already been made but it continued to circle around apparently insoluble problems of detail.

The Poles had at all times been ready to meet Bonn half-way in practice as regards allowing people of German descent to leave to country once the treaty was signed and sealed.

But they persistently refused even to negotiate on the subject, let alone give written guarantees, and after the fourth round of preliminary negotiations they even handed back without comment a paper on the topic submitted by Bonn.

As far as this country was concerned legal minds were still equipped with a number of blunt instruments left over from the era of the Hallstein Doctrine – despite the fact that political intent had long since reduced them to the status of fossils

The result was an attempt, made by State Secretary Franck and aided by his Swabian artfulness, to gain concessions from the Poles on what, as far as Warsaw was concerned, was the key issue: the article on recognition of the Oder-Neisse line.

There could no longer be any avoiding the term "laid down" in this but it could still be gone into in greater detail. . .

Poland responded by resorting to tactical moves of its own that threatened at times to jeopardise the entire matter in hand. Yet at the same time both sides were well aware that it was not a matter of agreeing on a frontier line between Germany and Poland but of making the existing frontier safer and more acceptable.

This paradox even characterised the conversation Herr Scheel had with Polish Premier Josef Cyrankiewicz on 9 November, an hour before the Foreign Minister flew back to Bonn and Brussels.

Although talks continued among the Warsaw delegation during the two-day interlude that ensued the fate of the negotiations were decided elsewhere. With diplomatic moves having reached exhaustion point top-level political decisions had to be taken on both sides.

Deputy Bundestag speaker Carlo Schmid, Social Democratic observer on the Bonn delegation and a "father confessor" whose words were not always heard with satisfaction, talked with the Chancellor in Bonn on 10 November following the meeting between Willy Brandt and Walter Scheel and advocated attaching prime importance to moral considerations.

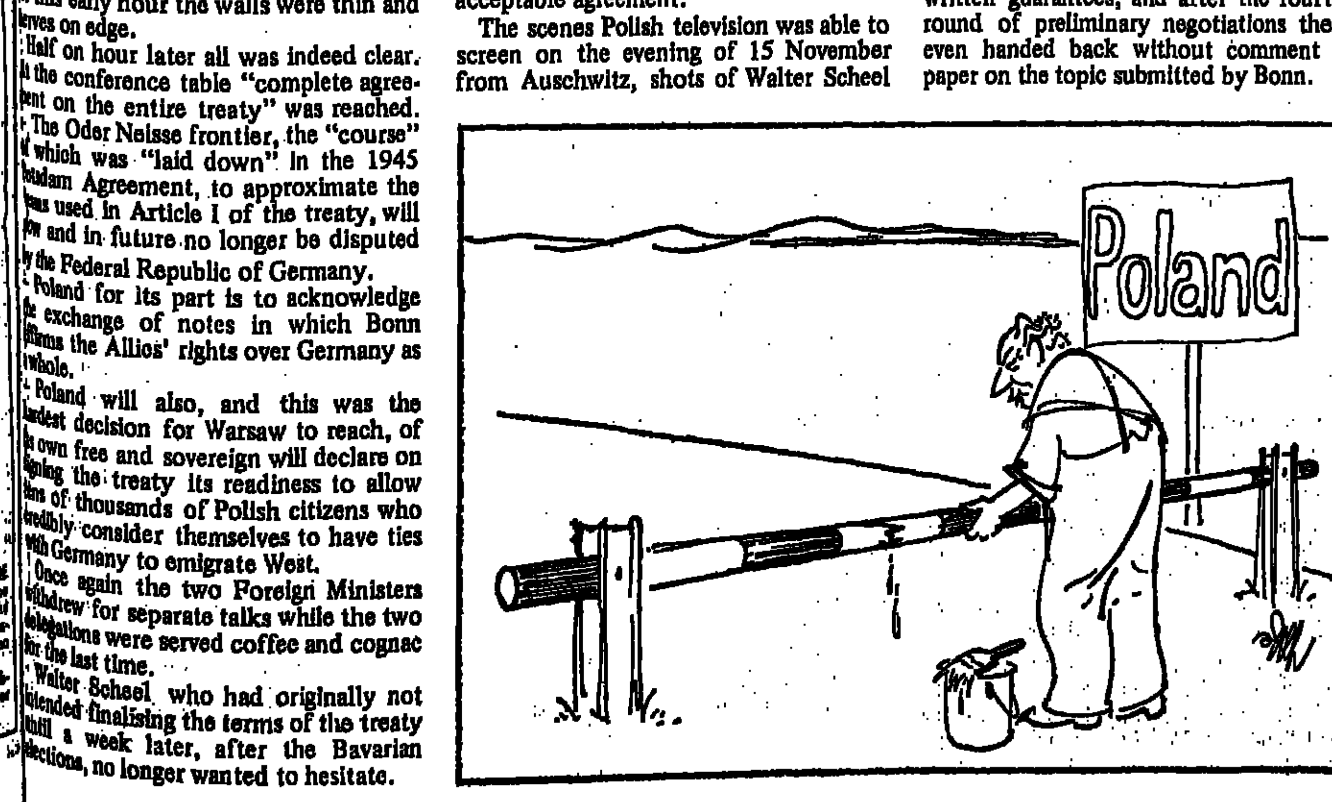
Ought Bonn to break off the talks even if Warsaw were to remain unyielding on points that were essential as far as this country was concerned?

The Federal government had allowed the Foreign Minister a fair amount of leeway. He was given no detailed instructions as to how the frontier was to be described, merely being called on to ensure that legal considerations were taken into account.

He had, however, been given fairly

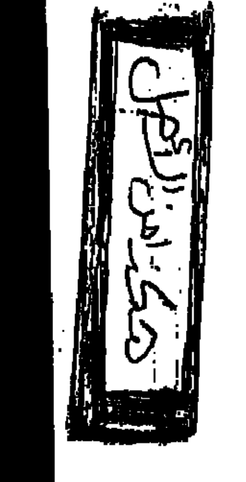
Continued on page 4

The Federal Republic Foreign Minister Walter Scheel (left) and Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Jedrychowski initialled the Polish Treaty in Warsaw on 18 November 1970 (Photo: AP)



Mended, at last!

(Cartoon: Fritz Wolf/Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger)



The Polish agreement

Continued from page 3

detailed instructions on the humanitarian concessions that must be gained. Would the Chancellor now intervene in the negotiations over and above the Cabinet decision?

Willy Brandt did not want to be accused by Foreign Office officials of having prevented his country's professional diplomats from exhausting every last opportunity of gaining ground by negotiation.

Despite the critical juncture he imposed no further restrictions on the Foreign Minister's freedom of decision, contenting himself with authorising Herr Scheel to make the following point to the Poles.

What use, they were to be asked, would a treaty be that satisfied all their requirements and made no mention of exit permits but would, at the same time, mean the downfall of the Brandt-Scheel government?

The two-day break was put to good use in Warsaw too. Even before First Secretary Gomulka left for a three-day state visit to Rumania the Polish politbureau had come to realise that although it might not be difficult it would be undesirable and fraught with repercussions for Poland morally to line up against the wall the first Bonn government ever prepared to persuade people in the Federal Republic to accept the consequences of the lost war, a war lost in moral terms too.

Could Warsaw afford to miss this opportunity? How important in comparison was the unrest that might result from the departure of people who wanted to leave Poland for a confusion of reasons – economic, family and nationality?

"It's in the bag," the Bonn delegation reckoned after the decisive confidential talk between Jedrychowski and Scheel following the latter's return to Warsaw on 11 November.

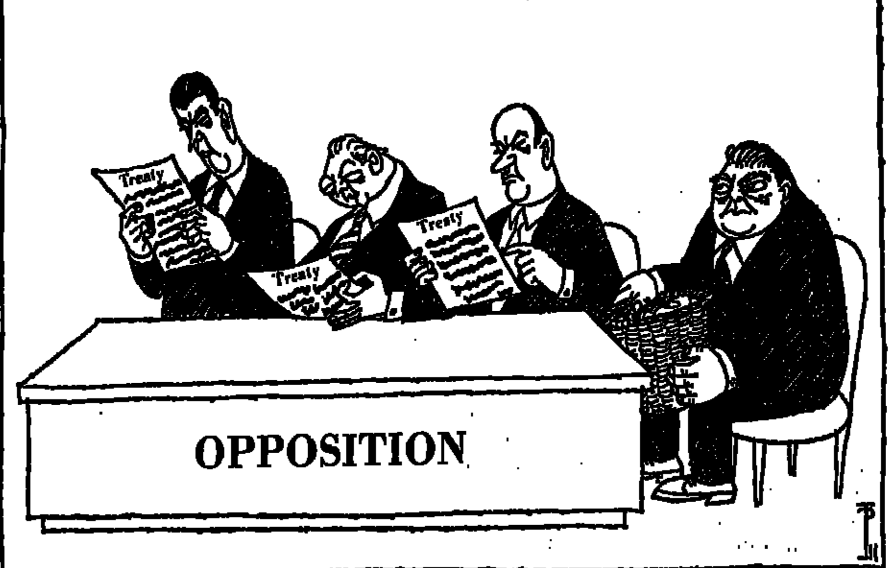
In the meantime this country had also secured uniformly obliging responses from the three Western Allies (whose viewpoints had originally varied slightly).

The Poles were given to understand that this country would be prepared to show good will on Article I if they were at least to acknowledge the fact of Bonn's exchange of notes with the Allies and at long last to make some progress on the "humanitarian" issue.

Viewed from the outside what now happened appeared to be contradictory. That afternoon Polish government spokesman Poleszczuk surprised the 100-odd journalists in the press centre at the Europejski Hotel with a sharply-worded declaration that some foreign newspapers were artificially and demagogically reporting rumours of a German minority in Poland, reports that in their bad taste called to mind memories of 1939.

With an attack exaggerated to this extent, the tactical reasons behind which few of those present could be expected to appreciate, the Polish government ran a serious risk of provoking further discussion of the topic in the press, which can hardly have been its intention.

Both sides were already backpedalling, though, as the prompt rejoinder by Bonn Foreign Office spokesman Brunner showed. Almost as though he had been waiting for his cue Herr Brunner objected to the term "German minority" as it was a "collective expression with a justifiably negative undertone in view of past events." It was, he said, a matter of "agreeing on a regulation of individual instances."



Considered – for the waste-paper basket

(Cartoon: Peter Leger/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

Easing restrictions on minorities

Easing of exit restrictions for a certain number of persons had also been mentioned in passing by the Polish government spokesman.

This was pretty well the way matters had progressed at the conference table. For more than an hour Foreign Minister Jedrychowski had vehemently countered the slightest suspicion that he might have any intention of dealing with an alleged minority problem while at the same time building a bridge to the concession without which the treaty would have amounted to political suicide on the part of Willy Brandt and Walter Scheel.

That same evening while paying Walter Scheel a visit at the Bristol Hotel the Polish Foreign Minister talked in an after-dinner speech of the forthcoming good-neighbourly relations between Poland and the Federal Republic of Germany (this was the first time he had ever used this country's full and correct designation).

His words were so cordial that an uninformed observer might well have gained the impression that the treaty of which he was heralding the home straight was already past the post.

"Basically the treaty *has* already been concluded, too," he calmly commented to journalists at another reception in the Bristol the following evening.

It was already clear that Walter Scheel would be leaving for Bavaria that weekend and could not finalise the treaty draft beforehand. Polish journalists who were unaware of the turn affairs were taking were well-nigh outraged by what they considered to be further delaying tactics.

"Why are you so impatient? " Deputy Foreign Minister Josef Winiewicz asked at a Polish press conference. "We have waited for 22 years. Another week is neither here nor there. We fully understand the political position the other side is in."

So it was that impatient Polish journalists wrote leaders for the Friday papers calling on the general public to be patient. *Zolnierz Wolnosci*, the army daily, was alone calling to mind, on 13 November, those people in the Federal Republic "who are not resigned (to renouncing territorial claims)."

The army paper, of course, has long feared losing its accustomed enemies, and a welcome opportunity for the reminder had been provided by a pointless article about paramilitary education in Poland published in *Wehrkunde*, a Federal Republic periodical dealing with military affairs.

But the alliance of the irreconcilable on both sides had already been passed by at the conference table.

Little more patience was needed either. Wladyslaw Gomulka returned on the Friday from Rumania, not enamoured of but at the same time not unimpressed by the self-confidence of Nicolae Ceausecu, the Rumanian leader, who wished the Poles luck in following, as it were, in his footsteps in reaching agreement with Bonn.

Since the signature of the Bonn-Moscow treaty many of the domestic and foreign policy snags of a treaty with Bonn have, as far as First Secretary Gomulka is concerned, become far more palatable.

It would in any case have been difficult to reverse the trend of slow progress in relations between Bonn and Warsaw that has set in since his proposal of 17 May 1969.

Since this date the path had been smoothed by stout-hearted and sober-minded diplomats: Josef Winiewicz and his open minded young specialists on Germany on the one hand and Ferdinand Duckwitz and a team of obliging Bonn diplomats, who at the end were unfortuantely without a man who had come to understand the Polish position late but better than many others, Winiewicz's first partner in Bonn, Heinrich Böx.

All played their part in ensuring that in the early morning hours on 14 November the final decisions were taken by two men of such differing political outlooks as Willy Brandt and Wladyslaw Gomulka.

Will the treaty bridge the gap between the two nations, to use Jedrychowski's phrase? More effectively even than the Moscow treaty it will rid Bonn of the odium of territorial claims and it will rid Poland of the German nightmare even though past events may not be forgotten.

Even though the accompanying documents make no economic or financial provisions, Poland having renounced all claim to reparations in 1953, the treaty will relieve Poland of a burden.

By increasing the country's external security it will help to ease the domestic convulsions that have been generated for propaganda purposes and braked many a reform over the past twenty years with the aid of uncertainty and mistrust.

In view of Poland's many unsolved economic and social problems this sense of security could, of course, give rise to fresh uncertainty – if, for instance, rapprochement and cooperation were to be exaggerated.

But then even the most cautious policy towards the Eastern Bloc runs the risk of triggering off unintended reactions.

Hansjakob Stehle

(DIE ZEIT, 20 November 1970)

The Poles have their way

It will be some time before the value and importance of the toughly negotiated Bonn-Warsaw Treaty can be adequately judged. It will be some time before we know whether the Treaty has led only to a formal normalisation of relations, such as the exchange of ambassadors, or whether it is indeed the beginning of true understanding between Germans and Poles. That is the important issue.

The feeling that it is up to us to make up for the legacy bequeathed by Hitler in our relations with the people of Poland is not new, nor is it confined to any one party.

Konrad Adenauer sought a beginning of this process as early as 1958. In 1959 Heinrich von Brentano, advised by Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz, at that time the Ministerial director, wanted to conclude a non-aggression pact with Poland.

Unfortunately two politicians named Oberländer and Krüger who represented the interests of the Germans expelled from Eastern Europe persuaded Adenauer not to put his plan into practice.

That was a real pity as the Poles were at that time ready to exclude the whole frontier question from the treaty aimed for.

Walter Scheel did not sign a treaty renouncing the use or threat of force in which frontiers were also mentioned, as he had wished. Instead he signed a frontier treaty in which the renunciation of force is also mentioned.

The Poles have had their way. The government in Warsaw sees this treaty as [illegible]



the recognition of the conclusive character of the Oder-Neisse frontier and all the world will be of the same opinion.

This is no falsification. Whether one likes it or not, it is from the political point of view a formal announcement by the Federal Republic of Germany that it will never violate this frontier.

It appears decidedly schizophrenic for us to recognise a frontier between two states that, in the view of the Polish government, are both foreign to us. Nobody in Belgrade has called on us to recognise the Austrian-Yugoslav frontier in a treaty.

But the fact is that the Polish man in the street considers us to be the real Germans and for this reason a treaty with Bonn is of decisive importance for both him and his government.

The Poles had to make two concessions during the fourteen days of negotiations. They had to respect our legal standpoint according to which any decision on frontiers that was to be legally binding in international law had to be made by an all-German government at a peace conference.

They too recognised that if they acted in any other way the treaty would not get the necessary two-thirds majority in the Bundestag or the approval of Bonn's Western allies.

They also had to give Walter Scheel's declaration on the humanitarian issue. It is not yet known what value and what practical effects this will have for Germans still living in Poland.

The only thing that is to be assumed is that it is far more modest than was to be hoped. The Opposition will attack this point with all its strength in the parliamentary clashes that are now due.

Georg Schröder

(DIE WELT, 16 November 1970)

Timetable of an agreement

ALL NIGHT SITTING CLINCHES THE DEAL



Five years of blazing fire and over twenty of smouldering embers are now history. Since 14 November a new age has dawned and this country has entered an important new stage in its relations with the East.

At 4.50 on the morning of Saturday 14 November Walter Scheel and Stefan Jedrychowski shook hands for the last time during their two weeks of talks. They were both tired – as was only natural after this long sitting in the Foksal Palace – but they both smiled.

Both smiles were smiles of contentment. The treaty between the Federal Republic and Poland had been drafted, words had been found that enabled closer relations between the two countries.

The two delegations had already finished their work on the treaty at 4.16 but Scheel and Jedrychowski then sat together for an extra thirty minutes, discussing with their closest advisers the historic importance of the treaty for the future of the Federal Republic and Poland.

The previous day, at least until the afternoon, no one could have forecast that the two delegations would progress with their work so quickly. It looks as if both sides concentrated all their powers on the Friday evening – and Saturday morning.

Consuming moderate amounts of beer and cognac and greater quantities of mineral water and coffee, they sought to find a solution to an awkward political problem of recognising a frontier without fixing it, announcing reservations without robbing the treaty of all its meaning and promising human easements, without at the same admitting to having acted inhumanely in the past.

Reporters spending this long night in the press centre were reminded of tariff negotiations and night sessions of the Common Market. The hours passed slowly.

News came from the Foksal Palace that the meeting had twice been interrupted and intervals taken. The reason was not given.

Speculation grew rife as journalists began to wonder what could have happened inside. At 9.30 that evening Rüdiger von Wechmar, the Bonn press spokesman, had announced optimistically to journalists waiting in the Europejski Hotel that negotiations would end ninety minutes after midnight.

It was originally planned to create a basis for working groups to put the finishing touches to the treaty during the course of the week, when Scheel had left. At four o'clock in the morning a waiter from the night club under the press centre served hungry journalists with a cold buffet. By now everybody had the impression that something dramatic must have happened in the Foksal Palace.

The time Rüdiger von Wechmar had mentioned had passed by three hours ago. Did all this have anything to do with the fact Wladyslaw Gomulka had returned from his visit to Rumania that morning and ordered a full account of the negotiations from Stefan Jedrychowski? Gomulka is known to be an impulsive and, some people claim unsteady man.

Perhaps, it was rumoured, he had demolished the treaty like a house of cards and the delegations were no longer piecing the various components together but clearing the rubble from the ground.

Or perhaps there were difficulties involved in the phraseology of the addresses that the two Foreign Ministers wished to give in connection with the conclusion of the treaty.

Or was there disagreement on the text of the note to be delivered to the Western powers, reminding them of their rights and obligations regarding the Bonn-Warsaw Treaty?

Whatever had happened, everybody thought they knew that there was, after all, a crisis in the negotiations.

But the reverse was true. Things went even more smoothly in the Foksal Palace than the greatest optimists had hoped or than the delay suggested.

Even Yugoslavian Deputy Minister of Information Skok who happened to be in the Europejski Hotel that night, mingling with the journalists, was no better informed than the reporters, one of whom, from Japan, kept scribbling illegible ideograms that gave him the aura of knowing all the secrets.

But he, like everyone else, was waiting for the telephone in the corner of the smoke-filled room to ring. It rang at 4.50. The hot line to the Foksal Palace was established. "Negotiations ended," was its cryptic message.

That was all. Information, it was said, could be obtained at the two press conferences that were to be opened by Bonn press spokesman Rüdiger von Wechmar, following a political ritual.

When von Wechmar then stated that there was full agreement on a settlement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the People's Republic of Poland, the Polish jounalists applauded loudly.

Their colleagues from the Federal Republic meanwhile jotted down the reasons why the final round of talks had lasted so long – after the working groups had made such great progress, the two main delegations agreed to get all the business over in one night instead of meeting again later in the week.

They had then faced the laborious task of acting as a sort of editorial staff, piecing together sentences that had been agreed upon. At 4.16 all the texts had been compared and the treaty was shipshape.

It could have been initialled right away if it had not been for the fact that the notes had to reach the Western powers.

When dawn broke over Warsaw on Saturday morning journalists from the two countries were still sitting at the press bar, discussing the night's events. There was a relaxed atmosphere, people were free from the pressure than had been affecting them for the past few days.

There was even time for jokes. One Pole said that he had a piece of hot news: the Chinese too had recognised the Oder-Neisse frontier – as their own.

Peter Sartorius

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 16 November 1970)

Walter Scheel laid a wreath at the monument to the millions who died in the Auschwitz concentration camp. He later visited the camp's museum.

(Photo: dpa)



Federal Republic Foreign Minister, Walter Scheel, answering journalists' questions prior to the initialling of the Polish Treaty

(Photo: dpa)

Memories of the past

The time in Warsaw's Foksal Palace was 12.30, the date 18 November. Foreign Minister Walter Scheel had jsut initialled the agreement between Poland and the Federal Republic. The faces of those standing around were serious. Foreign Minister Stefan Jedrychowski shook hands cordially with Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz, the former State Secretary.

Beside me stood a journalist from Poznan by the name of Szumowski. He muttered something at this point, removed the Partisan Cross from his lapel and put it into his picket. This was more than a gesture, this was an avowal.

I had been in this city exactly 27 years ago – as a wounded soldier returning from the Eastern front The ambulance carrying me from the train station to the military hospital in the western suburbs of the town came under the fire of Polish machine guns.

Szumowski and I now have a lot to talk about along with Czeslaw Pilichowski, the head of the central commission for the investigation of Nazi crimes. We spoke of those times during August and September 1944 when it seemed as if hell had invaded the city.

A Polish colleague drove me to Wola, a working-class suburb in the west of Warsaw. Twenty-six years ago the blood flowed along Wlaska Street. The church still stands along with the cemetary and the old fortifications dating from the last century. All these sites served as a place of gruesome killing.

We were passing along the East bank of the Wisla at the time, travelling northwards to ward off the Russians. There was an inferno to our left. The sun shone but the skies were black.

In front of the church can be seen graves dating from the Polish Insurrection of 1831, the graves of those who fell in 1939 and the mass graves of 1944. The history of Poland is a chain of oppression and uprisings.

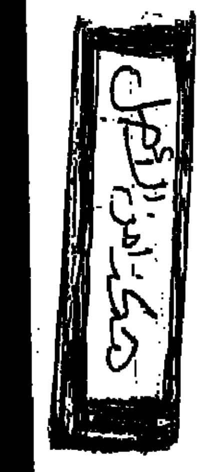
I went back into the town and met colleague Szumowski once again. I couldn't think of the right thing to say, but Szumowski could: Bettina von Arnim, Romanticism and more.

Yes Szumowski tells me, there were times when Poles and Germans worked together profitably. But I also think of the Germans from Danzig and Breslau, the present-day Gdansk and Wroclaw.

Szumowski shook my hand and stared into my eyes. "Come back soon," he said, "we must have a longer conversation." Outside the bus was waiting to take me to the airport.

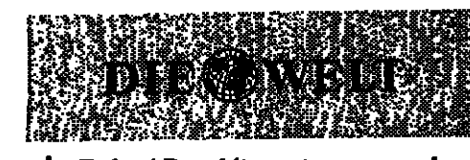
Antonius John

(Handelsblatt, 20 November 1970)



■ THE ARTS

Museum for art's 'pauper children' opens in Essen



A Federal Republic poster museum has been opened in Essen. There are to be no vain discussions about whether or not this is a "museum of art".

No one has been able to give a general answer about whether posters are art or not, but the question seems to be answered in the positive by one factor — Toulouse-Lautrec designed posters!

Perhaps the person who said that placards are the pauper child of the art world was nearest the mark.

Certainly these are not bastard children. They have a pedigree and what they "say" is said in a cultured "voice". But the fact remains they are never presented in a gold frame! They are not at home in the hallowed halls of fine art. The street is their milieu.

In contrast to their fine friends and relatives they are not members of the leisured classes — they are strictly businessmen.

Now it seems that like the tycoon who started off selling newspapers they have worked their way up from the bottom rung. Those that have been *arrivé* for some time are now socially acceptable, whereas they were once *parvenu*.

It has become obvious that there is no better middleman between the public and the world of art than the poster or placard.

What is regarded as strange, incomprehensible and stupid, what is scorned, mocked and called heretical in an avant-garde art gallery is a source of interest on the streets. As an advertising medium it is immediately comprehensible and even pleasing.

Abstract art, Dada, Surrealism, Collage, Montage, Informal, Op-art and Pop-art have captured the public's imagination from hoardings and advertising rondells.

These art-forms won over the public in their commercial role long before they achieved mass acceptance in the galleries even though it was the graphic artists with something to sell who copied avant-garde art-for-art's-sake artists and not the other way round.

The same forms, ideas, colour schemes and inspirations that are mocked as paintings, called pretentious and even considered a distortion or perversion of art are "all right" when they take the form of a poster.

Posters have brought modern art home to a wider range of spectators.

Certainly gratitude is not the only reason why art galleries are now exhibiting posters and placards. Their aesthetic, intellectual and sociological attractions have a part to play in their rehabilitation.

As long ago as the turn of the century afficionados roamed the streets at night surrepticiously removing placards from walls and hoardings with a wet sponge so as to fill their collection of Toulouse-Lautrec, Thomas Theodor Heine, Alfons Maria Mucha and Chéret, the inventor of the pin-up girl.

Successors of these fans formed the society of poster collectors in Germany before the First World War and these early poster fanatics have a say in the fact that galleries are now being opened specifically for exhibiting posters.

For some time there has been one such in Chateau Vilanow near Warsaw and the Essen Museum founded by Hundthausen, Schardt and Feuerstein.

This is the first and still the only one of its kind in the Federal Republic and deserves its title Deutsches Plakat-Museum. However, it was opened in rather a rush, but according to the committee "you have to start somewhere".

The decision was well taken because soon afterwards the city of Essen granted the Museum a five figure subsidy. Now there is a firm foundation for an exhibition of posters and work which has so far been supported by voluntary donations can begin in earnest.

In the former synagogue which is now the gallery the first exhibition of recent acquisitions proved conclusively how essential it is to have a place reserved specifically for placard and poster collections, since this selection forms no more than about four per cent of the total number of works in the store rooms, which is increasing daily.

A poster by Walter Tiemann shown at the Essen exhibition (Poster: Katalog)

The museum has at present about 15,000 posters. Of these approximately 2,000 could be said to be artistically and historically of great value. They are all from before 1925.

A special section is devoted to 1,200 Polish posters from the years 1945 to 1965. In addition there is a valuable collection of four hundred French posters from the years 1875 to 1908 and another group of around five hundred placards from the world of the circus and variety in the years 1880 to 1920.

The remainder of the collection is contemporary posters from all over the world. Hermann Schardt, curator of the Plakat-Museum is also the director of the Folkwangschule, which still possesses many of the works that will eventually be displayed in the Plakat-Museum.

The Museum will never be able to exhibit its total collection. Exhibits categorised by themes, styles, national aspects or period will be alternated from time to time.

Not all the posters that the Museum acquires will remain in its possession but they will all be registered and "stored" by means of a computer so that visitors keen to work on the history of posters will be able to cull information.

Eo Plunien
(DIE WELT, 2 November 1970)

Dürrenmatt's new would-be play dents his good reputation

An extraordinary mistake on the part of a playwright who has earned himself a reputation as the top writer in the German language — that is how many critical members of the audience at the premiere of Friedrich Dürrenmatt's new play *Porträt eines Planeten* judged the play.

The Kleines Haus of the Düsseldorf Schauspielhaus had been converted into an arena for the two hour performance.

The play was in twenty-four scenes and although these were linked by occasional thematic similarities they still did not amount to a healthy play with a capacity to live and survive.

True to the title the play is merely a "portrait" of the modern world. What it serves up is a series of loosely connected sketches, which are culled in a rather vague fashion from everyday existence and transported to the boards.

This is the theatre at the cabaret level and only in occasional brief moments do we see snatches of that masterful depicter of real living characters, that is the playwright Dürrenmatt.

Dürrenmatt has made it all too simple. He simply points things out, gives outlines, does not fill in his characters and does not flinch at ghastly simplifications.

The knife edge that we expect from his dialogue has been dulled. All attempts by the talented Czech director, Erwin Axer (who has created for himself a legend in Düsseldorf with his *Tango* and *Three Sisters*) have at best an ephemeral effect.

The Swiss playwright only points to motifs, coming from the most diverse aspects of life and he never succeeds in developing a theme that runs through the whole play. Whenever a theme that has been broached is on the verge of being taken up again the effect is cut short immediately with banal, everyday, Tom-Dick-and-Harry language.



An anti-war scene from Dürrenmatt's 'Porträt eines Planeten' which was premiered in Düsseldorf (Photo: Lore Bermbach)

Despite the discipline that Erwin Axer gives to the play and the intensity of the acting of the eight-strong cast which has to be capable of several character changes (Messrs Becker, Böttcher, Hammacher, Holka, Arps, Martell, Rheinbacher and Walther) the chief fault of the play cannot be covered up.

In fact this play is a series of 24 one-acters! They are produced without changes of scenery and their construction can scarcely be said to obey the laws of dramatic tension.

Dürrenmatt's vague themes are: youth, old age, war, death, marriage, communal and menages, narcotics, politics, faith and space travel.

The fact that four actors and four actresses have to change from one role to another may serve to show the interchangeability of rank, age, opinions and nationality. This is a technical process that is symptomatic of Dürrenmatt's attitudes as they are expressed in this his latest work.

Criticism of political and sociological conditions is here dealt out in boulevard style. There is the anti-America trend and the blaming of America for the deaths of

Continued on page 7

■ THINGS HEARD

Berlin Jazz Festival wins international acclaim

Since the crises affecting the Berlin Film Festival and the city's Festival Weeks only two of the four Berlin Festivals can still be described as intact — the Theatre Gathering and the Jazz Festival which is receiving more and more international acclaim.

Joachim Ernst Behrendt, the artistic director, tried to open last year's Festival to pop music. This experiment failed because of the intolerance shown by audiences. Anything that the purists could not accept was booed off the stage.

This year Behrendt sacrificed his better judgement to the stubbornness of purists. The influence of pop music on the jazz scene was omitted from the programme.

This is regrettable as pop music may not able to replace jazz but it can help to preserve it from stagnation. And this would have been desirable.

It is hard to escape the fact that jazz is being forced into a blind alley by the Free Jazz played by the Globe Unity Orchestra of Alexander von Schlippenbach or Sun Ra's Intergalactic Research Orchestra, the pioneers of Free Jazz.

Of course the raging intensity with which Schlippenbach and his musicians try to widen the limits of jazz expression has a certain fascination — white power in action. But a blind alley's a blind alley, however exciting it may be.

The decisive mistake committed by Schlippenbach and Son Ra seems to be the fact that they do not exploit collective improvisation as an additional effect, but raise it to an absolute value. They are furiously driving a principle to its death.

When collective improvisation is used sparingly it can prove of great service to the cause of jazz. The Polish Thomasz Stanko Quintet showed this with *Music for K.*, an epitaph stamped with deep grief for composer Krzysztof Komeda.

Another interesting work is Georg Russel's attempt to form a synthesis of jazz and electronic music. The music and sounds of his *Electronic Sonata For Soul Loved By Nature* can be given a fruitfully provocative effect by great improvisors such as Albert Mangelsdorff and Manfred Schoof.

The Jazz Festival was opened by the Berlin Dream Band under Oliver Nelson whose *Berlin Dialogues for Orchestra* is a kind of political musical feature.

Nelson relates the racial North-South conflict in the Unites States to the East-West conflict in Central Europe. The three main sections of his work are *Confrontation, Neutral Zone* and *Over the Wall*. The ear cannot take in the geographical change — all it hears is the big band music that is merely effectively arranged.

The Buddy Rich Orchestra was another band that did not surpass the stage of a splendidly calculated effect. But the Clark Boland Big Band together with Dizzy Gillespie managed to wrest a few new nuances from the big band sound.

Among the highlights of the Jazz Festival were the appearance of Leon Thomas' group which roused its audience to a state of euphoria with its exotic instruments and strange yodling sounds and a midnight concert with Gerry Mulligan and the Dave Brubeck Trio. Here two great jazz musicians of different types played together so that the friction would eventually produce creative sparks.

Hellmut Kotschenreuther
(Kieler Nachrichten, 11 November 1970)



Sun Ra and his Intergalactic Research Orchestra at the Berlin Jazz Festival (Photo: Ilse Buhs)

Continued from page 6

countless innocent people in the fight against Communism in Vietnam.

There is criticism of technocrats who make the death of a spaceman a national event. There is the disorganised state of a president who relies too heavily on incompetent advisers.

These are themes that are worthy of consideration of course, but in this play they are not filled in sufficiently by the Swiss playwright.

The various scenes are not considered carefully enough and such matters as youngsters destroying themselves with drugs and the wasted lives of those who live in communist ménages are doled out in a way that jumps on a fashion bandwagon.

In these clipped dialogues all we see is the tired out fact that it is modish to pillory so-called "imperialism" on the part of the United States.

We see how smart it is to attack in cabaret style the young (in these scenes the dialogues runs characteristically on a cabaret level) for escaping from a world of senseless violence into their own artificial paradises.

The most embarrassing moment in this succession of scenes is the singing of the Schubert Lied *Der Wanderer an den Mond* by a trio of women. This is intended to denounce German sentimentality, but it ends up sounding more like a chorus of cats bewailing the inadequacies of this dramatic event.

At the end when — in intended irony — almighty God is prayed to collectively the farce reaches its peak and those of us who have in the past enjoyed Dürrenmatt plays can only shake our heads, sadder and wiser, in the realisation that even the best of playwrights can chuck away in two hours a reputation that he has built up in several years.

Even an experienced playwright who has set out to criticise society can find himself acting as an involuntary servant of that society.

"A better world lies ahead," the playwright tells us at one point in this series of scenes purporting to be a play. Let us hope that somewhere in the future a better play lies on the tip of Friedrich Dürrenmatt's quill.

Christian Herchenröder
(Handelsblatt, 12 November 1970)

Good ideas but little more at Kassel Music Festival

Kassel's Music Festival has nothing at all to do with the usual type of festival, though it could be described as a working festival. In Kassel the members and guests of the "International Circle for Music" are confronted with musical philosophy which is very unpopular here as it tends to spoil the enjoyment felt at listening to music.

Three short talks and an abortive discussion dealt with the subject of "Pioneers of new music in three epochs". While Professor Kurt Fischer of Zurich explained the innovations of ars nova in fourteenth century France, Monteverdi's revolutionary individualistic style circa 1600 and the upheavals at the beginning of the twentieth century, his younger Berlin colleague Rudolf Stephan asked what an epoch was and, for that matter, a pioneer.

Both speakers revealed that they were sceptical about the present state of music and hinted that pioneer work is often more important than the path then followed as a result.

Mahler, Debussy, Schoenberg and others can hardly be brought into a sensible context with today's musical production. The opus perfectum has now been called into question after always being the goal of all creative art, l'art pour l'art no longer has any sense and the modern has become the basis for every modern work. The result is the desire to return to what is described as the original condition. This could be the starting point for the development of new artistic trends.

At any rate the two speakers did not exclude the possibility, as much as they deplored the change in musical philosophy.

While Kurt Fischer made a frantic effort to be up to date, Rudolf Stephan adopted a harshly conservative view that he would not have been expected to hold.

But as he warned against taking over traditional concepts without thinking them over, as he showed that the interwoven functions of a musician as both a follower and surveyor of new principles were of decisive importance for what we call tradition and as he attacked unfair judgements by stating that these early works may be preparing the way for greater achievements, he did turn out to be a true progressive.

He mentioned one example of his view. Haydn is not given the appreciation he deserves though he is valued as the precursor of Mozart and Beethoven.

Every work of art that does not represent a pinnacle of achievement can be an important agent in the development of art.

This is an interesting theory; it is only regrettable that the Kassel Music Festival thwarted any further discussion by limiting activities to too few speeches by people who knew what they are talking about and by not allowing enough time fot the subject.

Music was not given suitable treatment either. This aspect of the subject should have been reflected in interpretations as was the case with Gerd Albrecht for Debussy, Helmuth Rilling for Reger's *Vater Unser* and the Gawrilof-Palm-Kontarsky trio for Busoni, Ives and Reger.

This was not however the case with Ruhland's *Capella antiqua* and the problematic performance of Monteverdi's *St Mary Vespers*.

Kassel's Music Festival always has good ideas but, unfortunately, once they are pursued they get bogged down half way.

W. E. von Lewinski
(CHRIST UND WELT, 13 November 1970)

'Show Boat' performed in this country at last!

Oscar Hammerstein and Jerome Kern's *Show Boat* a precursor of the modern musical dating from 1927, has often been described scornfully as the grandfather of musicals.

At the time it first appeared Hammerstein was generally considered mad as he had based the work on a serious novel of the same name by Edna Ferber dealing with America's critical racial problem.

Almost all later internationally successful musicals have followed this formula and dealt with serious social problems of the times. These range from *Oklahoma* in 1943 to *My Fair Lady* and *Kiss me Kate*.

Show Boat does not however have the integration of song, text, action and choreography characteristic of the genre. For all its love of Negro rhythm, *Show Boat* is musically closely bound to old European and American operettas.

With hits like *Make Believe, Bill* or even *Ol' Man River* the fame of this old musical quickly spread throughout the world and there have been innumerable new productions of it in the States.

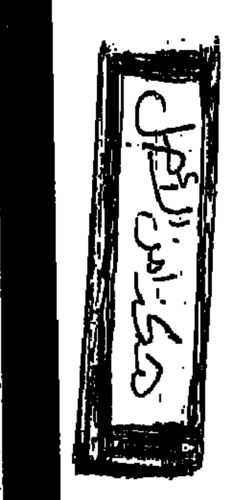
But it did not come to this country until 43 years afterwards, ostensibly because of questions of copyright. When the show boat tied up at the Freiburg Stadttheater, it was a big occasion.

Hannes Houska had pulled out all the stops and included all the brainwaves, good mood and attractions he could. Stage designer Hannes Rader came up with gay, multicoloured scenery in pop-art colours and incorporating the stern of an old Mississippi paddle steamer. Most of the leading roles were filled by opera singers.

But the main star came from New York. Franz Allers, one of the most famous American conductors, inspired the Freiburg Philharmonic Orchestra with his infectious enthusiasm and admirable precision and led them to give an unusually rich performance.

His rich experience of musicals must have contributed that little bit extra to the production. The final applause was deafening and *Show Boat* is certainly the hit of the season in Freiburg.

Jürgen Buschkiel
(DIE WELT, 12 November 1970)



■ SCIENCE

Professor Manfred Eigen's new theories could lead to advances in evolutionary research

Several hundred scientists from all parts of the Federal Republic recently flocked to Munich to hear two two-hour lectures by Professor Manfred Eigen of the Max Planck Institute for Physical Chemistry in Göttingen on the self-organisation of material and the evolution of biological macromolecules.

The reason for the great interest shown in Professor Eigen's new theory is that scientists in this field have met a dead-end and are waiting impatiently for a breakthrough.

Professor Eigen, who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1967, explained that three evolutionary phases must be differentiated from each other even though they could have been taking place at the same time.

These were, firstly, the pre-biotic, chemical period during which elements combined to form the molecules needed for the origins of life.

Next came the period when these *molecules organised themselves* to the simplest individual forms capable of reproduction. The third period is the evolution of the species proceeding according to Darwin's theories of the survival of the fittest.

It is mainly chemists who have dealt with the first stage. By simulating a primeval atmosphere in laboratory conditions. scientists have shown that all the components needed for macromolecules can form and polymerise under pre-biotic conditions.

For a long time biologists dealt only with the third stage, 'differentiating' the simplest living beings from the variety of forms now existing on Earth.

Professor Eigen is mainly interested in the second stage which involves the transformation of inanimate material – the individual chemical molecules – to the first forms of life such as microbes. His theory is based on four plausible assumptions:

*Evolution is based on chance, though this does not mean that the first form of life was formed by the chance arrangement of its components.

Years ago Eugene Wigner stated that, according to the laws of the quantum



technique, it is impossible for life to be formed by the chance arrangement of its components.

He concluded that the present laws and concepts of quantum mechanics will have to be modified before they can be applied to the problem of life,

In his lectures Professor Eigen showed that quantum mechanics did not need to be changed. When applying its laws, scientists need only take into account the particular requirements for a process of evolutionary selection. One requirement is that self-organisation does not occur by chance, but with the aid of certain instructions. Eigen says:

*Instruction requires information. In daily life information comes from agreement. People *lay down* what certain sounds and signs are to signify. But what are the origins of the information contained in the genes of the living creature? Eigen says:

*Information occurs through selection. This principle is the basis of Darwin's Theory of Evolution, Darwin considers selectivity to be a typical characteristic of life. Eigen is now trying to base the



(Photo: dpa)

selection principle on the known characteristics of material.

*Selection occurs only in certain systems under certain restrictive conditions. He explains what he means by this, relating the whole process to a game.

The object of the game is to form a chain of one hundred amino acid molecules consisting of the twenty amino acids in a previously determined series and using for this purpose an icosahedron with each of its twenty faces representing one of the twenty amino acids.

If the icosahedron is now used as a die to determine which amino acid is to occupy what position, the game would be very tiring as there are 10 to the power of 130 (one followed by 130 noughts) different arrangements of amino acids in our chain. The dice-throwers would have to play a long time before throwing one hundred correct acids.

But if a selection rule is introduced into the game and every correctly occupied position need no longer be thrown for, the number of throws needed is reduced to an average total of 950.

How did nature manage to produce proteins (chains of amino acids) with a certain sequence without having to test all the possibilities? She too guessed, but whenever a certain component was advantageous to a certain function, this information was stored until finally a molecule was formed which had the best possible characteristics for the functions incumbent on it. The possibilities were played through statistically and functional advantages were retained as they were more prone to be reproduced.

The same is true for the second group of vital macromolecules – the nucleic acids consisting of four types of component. The most important part of nucleic acids are the nucleic bases containing the information about the necessary arrangement of amino acids in proteins.

Nucleic acids are found in the chromosome genes and their information is carried by a complicated mechanism from there to the places in the cell where proteins are synthesised.

As proteins are a decisive part of this mechanism the question of whether the nucleic acids or proteins were there first is as senseless as the question "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?".

Only material that can grow and has an autocatalytic character is able to store information. Both proteins and nucleic acids have these characteristics, though to a different extent.

These material characteristics can only work in the process of selection if certain outside conditions are provided. The constantly growing and improving system must never reach a state of balance where nature needs to supply least energy, a state that all chemical systems strive toward.

To keep a system from reaching a balance, free energy must be constantly fed to it energy that can then be used directly for work. During the growth of proteins and nucleic acids in nature this free energy is in the form of chemical energy. The proteins are not formed from the amino acids themselves, but from activated amino acid derivatives that are full of energy. The nucleic acids too are formed from activated derivatives or nucleic bases. The chemical energy keeps the system in motion and prevents it from reaching a dead state of balance.

Professor Eigen has shown mathematically that certain material is selected under certain conditions while other types of less selective value die out.

The selective value decides whether a system that has occurred by chance is preserved and evolves further. The system is only improved, nothing completely new can be added even though it might be more suitable for the desired functions.

The selective value has a precise physical definition, containing quantities characterising the speed of evolution and reproduction and the survival rate of an information carrier.

The Professor applied his new theory to the molecular systems important in the origins of life -- proteins and nucleic acids. He found that activated nucleic bases could produce nucleic acids in a certain arrangement. They could reproduce but the molecular chains could not become very long.

The main reason for this is that the interaction between the nucleic bases that is important for recognition is not sufficiently pronounced. Eigen therefore concludes that the beginnings of evolution could not have been based on nucleic acids alone.

Proteins can reproduce themselves in a circular process, as F. Lipmann first showed with an antibiotic called Gramacidin S.

But proteins do not have the gift of self-instruction. Advantageous changes cannot be reproduced unless a new circle of reaction is formed for them. Even then, the old, inferior reaction circle is not destroyed and the system is unable to *get rid of its parasites.*

It is not very likely that a new circle will be formed. Eigen believes that the beginnings of evolution could not have been based on proteins alone.

The only remaining possibility is a link between nucleic acids and proteins. The theory shows that this combination has all the characteristics necessary for the development of life.

A system composed of nucleic acids and proteins can reproduce continually and harmful alternatives can be quickly rigorously eliminated.

By exploiting advantageous changes, the system constantly improves and is ready to adapt to a change in exterior conditions.

The theory also explains the formation of genes and the tendency of the system to divide and form a cellular structure.

The system described by Professor Eigen need not necessarily be the historically pertinent one. It is the simplest one possible and the important thing is that the theory will lead to new experiments that could help to explain evolution.

Barbara Schröder

(DIE ZEIT, 6 November 1970)

Seventy five years of X-rays

"I have discovered something interesting though I do not know whether my observations are correct," Conrad Wilhelm Röntgen is reported to have said in conversation with a Würzburg colleague.

This remark, made in the late autumn of 1895, is probably the first indication we have of the astonishing findings of physicist Röntgen, who was born 125 years ago last March.

75 years ago on 8 November 1895 Röntgen was working in his laboratory in the physics department of Würzburg University when he observed that fluorescent barium platinum cyanogen crystals continued to shine even when they were far away from an electrical discharge tube.

People at this time knew quite well the processes involved in these tubes. Physicists Wilhelm Hittorf and Philipp Lenard discovered cathode rays in the late nineteenth century.

These rays could be observed in vacuum tubes and were later identified as electron rays. They have only a short range and are completely absorbed when penetrating thin foil or even air. It is only *when they are in the direct vicinity* of the cathode that they produce fluorescence in the tube.

As the crystals still shone when outside the tube, they must have been influenced by unknown cathode rays of a strong penetrative character or by a completely new type of ray, Röntgen concluded.

He later found that thick books or glass did not prove a great obstacle to the rays. But lead sheet, however thin, did.

Röntgen also observed how a human hand would be penetrated by the rays if held between the discharge apparatus and

DIE WELT

a screen. The only part that could then be seen were the bones as a dark shadow on the bright background of surrounding tissue.

Röntgen now managed to localise the source of these unknown rays. He found that they came from a green patch on the glass wall of the tube that was struck be cathode rays and made to shine brightly.

Working day and night, Conrad Wilhelm Röntgen used his findings to build the first Röntgen tube that produced intense X-rays. The first photograph of an X-rayed hand – it was his wife's – was taken just before Christmas 1895.

On 28 December of the same year Röntgen gave a preliminary report of his research to the Würzburg Society for Physical Medicine. He gave a speech to the Society on this subject on 23 January 1896. By this time his discovery had already brought him international fame.

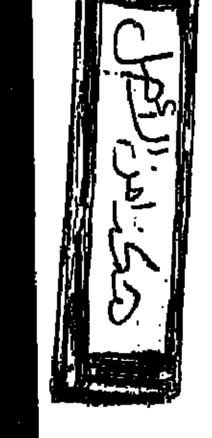
During his lecture the members of the Society watched enthusiastically as anatomist Rudolf Albert von Kölliken had his hand X-rayed. The plate was then passed round to the listeners.

In 1901 Röntgen received the first Nobel Prize awarded for physics. He donated the 50,000 Swedish Crowns which went with the Prize to the University of Würzburg.

Since then many physicists have been awarded the Nobel Prize for work with and on X-rays. Max von Laue was the first. He recognised the wave character of X-rays and also discovered the characteristic interference pattern obtained when these rays passed through a crystal lattice.

Michael Globig

(DIE WELT, 9 November 1970)



■ THE ECONOMY

Stagflation is the danger for 1971

The wind is out of the sails of the boom which has been given its head for so long, and was allowed to get out of the control.

The planned "Expansion nach Mass" (controlled expansion) was allowed to run wild and become inflationary. As a result of this costs went up and prices followed.

Whereas on the consumer market we can reckon with continued growth tendencies for some time as a result of large pay and salary increases won recently, the cutting back of overall economic developments will depend on how far the trend towards investments is impeded.

The question now arises: how far this effort to slow down the economy will go and how speedily it will be concluded. In other words will the economy's growth be cut back or will the economy be crippled, resulting in stagnation?

Officials in Bonn have estimated that in the coming year on the basis of data already on hand there will be a nominal increase in the overall gross national product of around 7.5 or 8.5 per cent.

These are, however, figures that represent a "desirable" development, but not a real prognosis.

What is certain is that next year we will have to be prepared to face further substantial price increases. So one of the essential ingredients of *Stagflation* is bound to be with us.

The actual cost of higher wage bills has affected our economy to a very great extent, far more in fact than the increase in the wages and salary scales in recent months would lead us to believe. These deals worked out by collective bargaining promised high enough wage increases, but in addition there were a number of "flanking" increases in wage bills.

The Bavarian metalworking industries for example have reckoned that their wage bill on 1 November this year was twenty per cent higher than at the same time last year.

The greatly increased general national income creates a favourable climate and greater breathing space for companies to pass off higher wage bills on to prices. Using these opportunities companies are able to slow down the trend in declining profits which is already well under way, but they can do nothing to halt it.

It is still an open question whether in spite of all this, as in the United States, the Federal Republic will be plunged into stagnation, that is to say a complete stoppage of economic growth as early as next year.

A levelling off of economic growth to something near the stage of stagnation, next year cannot be ruled out.

Munich's Ifo Institute of Applied Statistics has estimated that the expected seven per cent growth rate this year will be followed by a four per cent figure for 1971.

The levelling off process in the capital investment goods sector is expected to be more marked, whereas consumer goods production will presumably expand as strongly as at present.

This prognosis that the consumer goods sector will maintain a high level of production gives rise to certain doubts, since we have experienced that consumers become more cautious in their spending as soon as they realise that job security is no longer guaranteed.

Furthermore it is food for thought that in the capital investment goods sector where an above-average levelling off of production is expected next year the various industries are not especially quick to react to trends in the industrial economy.

In the over all structure of industrial production the capital investment goods sector carries twice the weight of the consumer goods branch. A decline in production of capital investment goods therefore has a more marked effect on the overall industrial production index and cannot without further ado be compensated by relative stability in the development of consumer goods production.

For this reason it seems doubtful whether the four per cent increase in industrial production which has been forecast for next year is sufficiently guaranteed.

From the point of view of developments on export markets 1971 should see continued expansion at an equally high level despite the fact that Federal Republic manufactured goods have become more expensive.

Inflationary tendencies abroad are by no means so dampened down as many people had supposed. In the United States, for instance, September saw a speeding up of increased prices affecting the cost of living so that the index for 1970 was 5.6 per cent higher than for the same month in 1969.

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) forecasts that the inflation rate for Western Europe in 1971 will be around the five per cent mark. "There are few signs that the rising prices trend in Europe is beginning to level off," the OECD report states.

In this country's neighbour, France, estimates for 1970 reckon on an average increase in prices of items that are essential for the average consumer of approximately 5.7 per cent.

In Sweden and in the Netherlands the rise in prices has been so immense that the last resort of a price freeze has had to be implemented.

Laying aside the fact that there should be continued growth impulses on export markets in the coming year the fact remains that at bottom it is the trend in investments that is the decisive factor for the over all economic development tendencies.

Investments are the motive force of the industrial economy. Domestic orders for capital investment goods had already dropped decisively by mid 1970 compared with the level of the previous year, when outside factors such as the eight per cent increase in prices of investment goods were excluded.

The fact that this year there has still been large-scale investment in this country can be put down to a great increase in borrowing.

First half of 1970
Increase in industrial production in the first six months of 1970 compared with the same period of 1969 in %
Building industry +17.5 · Manufacturing and crafts 13.5 · Service industries 13.4 · Trade and commerce 11.8 · Transport services 7.5 · Agriculture
NOMINAL / REAL: +0.8 · 7.2 · 3.9 · 6.9 · 6.4 · 3.8 · −0.5

This resulted in Federal Republic economic giants becoming indebted to other countries. In the first nine months of 1970 no fewer than 14.5 thousand million Marks were borrowed on short-term loans by concerns in this country. In the same period banks in this country loaned 29 thousand million Marks to companies here. Long-term financing with short-term loans is a risky process which has sent many an enterprising industrialist to the bankruptcy court.

Short-term loans which are obtained mostly from the Eurodollar market have to be consolidated and that will be difficult enough since all hopes that interest rates will be lowered have so far been frustrated.

Even if there is a drop in interest rates in the next year it will be some time before the effect of this is felt by private companies.

In other countries that have lowered their discount rates, Bank Rate and the like, there has been a lapse of time before this gave any beneficial effect to companies.

Influxes of money from abroad have been considerable and have had a marked effect on the amount of liquid cash that has been available for investment here.

Latest developments have also shown that the decisions on how much capital and liquid cash will be available to affect our economy are not taken in Bonn or in Frankfurt at the Bundesbank, but on the Euro-dollar market and in New York.

Tendencies for further investment will have already quit many firms that are now fearing that the credits they have drawn from the Euro-dollar market are having to be prolonged from quarter to quarter, whereas at the same time prospects of consolidation and long-term financing of their enterprises are still very vague.

Limitation of this country's banking system

The fact that the Federal Republic banking system will never be in a position to convert debts or consolidate firms to the tune of ten figure sums is a fact that the Deutsche Bank spokesman, Herr Ulrich, stressed without mincing words. We must go on hoping that we will not be plunged into such a situation.

Profits were still good up until mid 1970, but despite this enormous debts have still been incurred. During the next twelve months profits will drop considerably.

The conclusion that can be drawn from this is that investment potential has already been severely undermined by rising costs and that in the next year the risk that investment will decline considerably must not be overlooked.

If this happens we will be a step nearer *Stagflation*. A recent survey by Ifo in Munich has confirmed suspicions that in the second half of 1970 industrial firms already cut back their investments plans for next year.

This survey went on to show that we can expect an industrial investment increase, despite everything, of approximately eight per cent but there is no guarantee that by early next year further cut backs in investment programmes will not have been affected.

Warning signs have been raised too quickly in the Federal Republic that we might experience the fatal consequences of the last inflationary super-boom in America, that is to say stagnation combined with inflation, growing unemployment, slight economic growth, continued price increases and continued high interest rates.

Walter Slotosch

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 7 November 1970)

Federal Republic foreign exchange 'riches' are a myth

Just as the present inflationary boom is based on an illusory "blossoming" of the Federal Republic economy so is the idea that this country is loaded with a surplus of foreign exchange (at present 37 thousand million Marks) a myth.

This fact becomes crystal clear from the latest figures issued by the Bundesbank on this country's balance of payments. But these statistics have been misinterpreted in many quarters, since it was not recognised that the recent flood of foreign exchange into this country was not the product of genuine activity by the Federal Republic foreign trading organisations.

The reason for the apparent surpluses is that this country has got into growing debt to other countries.

Bundesbank currency reserves increased between mid-year and 23 October by around ten thousand million Marks. On the other hand Federal Republic credit houses have taken out short-term loans of between sixteen and seventeen thousand million Marks.

These short-term debts will presumably increase to over twenty thousand million Marks by the end of the year.

They are loans that must be paid back by next year at the latest, so in fact the actual reserve of foreign exchange is only twenty thousand million Marks — half of the illusory figure!

Twenty thousand million Marks is enough to cover our import requirements for about two months, which is below average according to internationally accepted levels of currency reserves.

Recently Herr Ulrich, the spokesman for the committee of the Deutsche Bank, pointed out that it was dangerous to run up huge debts to other countries and stressed that the repayment of these loans could not be completed without assistance from the Bundesbank unless, of course, their duration were extended.

The Bundesbank has rejected the idea of giving repayment assistance. In the first nine months of the year the influx of foreign exchange was, at fifteen thousand million Marks twice as high as in the same period of 1969 when there was massive speculation about revaluation of the Mark. This meant that the Bundesbank's credit squeeze policies were counteracted and made virtually ineffective.

For another reason black clouds are gathering in the treacherously blue sky of Federal Republic balance of payments affairs.

The surplus in the current account of the balance of payments up till the end of September has shrunk to only 800 million Marks. This is only one fifth of the figure for the same period last year, and that despite the fact that export surpluses standing at 10.6 thousand million Marks were almost as high as in September 1969.

This striking worsening of the balance of payments can be put down to the greatly increased expenditure by Federal Republic tourists abroad and remittances back home by the two million foreign workers in this country.

The consequences of this are the large deficits in the service industries and transfers to foreign countries, amounting to around ten thousand million Marks.

Thus it is clear that our economy has insufficient foreign exchange to cover the capital exports made necessary by the development aid programme. These exports have fallen by two thirds to 4.8 thousand million Marks and this is being financed from foreign exchange reserves accumulated in the past.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 4 November 1970)

■ COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS

81 chambers of trade and commerce are too much of a good thing

There are 81 chambers of trade and commerce in this country representing all spheres of business except those that have their own specialised organisations, such as the crafts sectors which have 45 chambers of their own.

As a result of structural changes in commerce and industry their chambers are often ailing. Self-employed craftsmen are banding together. Many master-craftsmen are turning their businesses into closed shops and others are finding ways of making their business into a small or middle-sized industrial concern.

The chambers of trade and commerce, too, cannot escape structural changes of this kind.

They will have to follow the example of State-run organisations that have been going through a process of rationalisation and simplification for some years. For instance small local courts (Amtsgerichte) have been closed because their size was no longer practical. In North Rhine-Westphalia several hundred local councils have had to merge.

The number of districts (Kreise) in the state was reduced from 57 to 45. The elections in the northern part of Rhineland Palatinate led to a general tidying-up process. In Hesse the merging of 47 local district divisions (Gemeinde) has been approved. The American occupation forces in 1945 refused to allow any chambers as bodies under public law. Instead a number of registered societies were formed and these grow wild.

The situation was different in the British and French zones of occupation. In Baden and Hesse for instance small chambers with very localised accents were set up.

The chamber in Lindau was cut off from the Augsburg branch and the French regarded it as the connecting link between their zones of occupation in Germany and Austria.

Modern economic ideas which include management and integration striving towards consolidation as well as rationalisation have permeated far enough into the sphere of chambers of commerce.

Specialists and correspondingly higher contributions are required, however, if all that public administrators and member companies expect is to be fulfilled.

There are great differences between on the one hand municipal chambers of commerce and on the other hand those that cover a great surface area, but one in which there is very little industrial and economic activity. The latter is not conducive to an efficiently operating system of chambers of trade and commerce.

This applies for instance to the chamber in Stade. In such cases what is needed is a financial compromise or a merger, of which the latter is probably the better solution.

Frankfurt and Düsseldorf on the other hand do not cover such a great surface area, but the industrial concentration in these cities is extremely intense.

Both factors, a large area and industrial density, apply to the chambers of commerce in Munich and Upper Bavaria.

In order to give the best service to firms chambers of trade and commerce should be within easy reach although they do not necessarily need to be within a stone's throw.

There are compromise solutions such as branch offices, committees, an advisory council or similar kinds of panel. Such sub-offices could be presided over by a business manager with full responsibilities and a representative with an honorary position.

He could be considered a member of the full committee and, depending on his importance, also as a vice-president.

The possibility of two presidents alternating or two permanent presidents with equal powers and responsibility, as in the Federal Republic Confederation of Brewers, should not be ruled out.

Frankfurt already has a branch office in Hoechst, which exists simply because of the Hoechst dye-works, so that it can operate rationally and be on the spot.

In rural and agricultural areas a number of small branch offices would be the best solution precisely because these areas are so large and so sparsely endowed with industrial concerns.

Munich has ten sub-offices of the chamber of trade and commerce with corresponding industry and trade panels.

It is essential to strive for the greatest effect with the smallest possible staff and budget. In all cooperative work headquarters should concentrate more and more on vital factors to be special emphasis. Individual problems of structure could be left to the branch offices.

A chamber of trade and commerce such as that at Limburg, which serves only a narrow economic sphere, namely quarrying and earthworks, will not in the long run prove to be a going concern in this form.

Neighbouring chambers of trade and commerce should be integrated, such as those in the textile centres of Mönchengladbach and Rheydt and those for the furniture industry in Bielefeld and the Detmold area.

In North Rhine-Westphalia rationalisation has led chambers of trade and commerce to specialise on one particular sphere. Cologne, for instance now concerns itself in the main with educational questions, Düsseldorf lays emphasis on foreign trade and Münster is the centre for the armaments and defence industries.

The chambers of trade and commerce in Mainz and Wiesbaden work in close cooperation even though a Federal state border runs between.

In the case of Ludwigshafen, Mannheim, Heidelberg and Darmstadt, however, the state borders have a separating effect.

Where chambers of trade and commerce have little economic importance even a tradition stretching back one hundred years or more is no justification for their continued existence.

In the twentieth century tradition can no longer be regarded as a *raison d' être* for any outdated organisation. Chambers of commerce are not nature preservation parks!

Alwin Münchmeyer, who was acting President of the Federal Republic Trade and Industrial Congress (DIHT) from 1958 to 1963, once spoke in Augsburg about what was the ideal size for a chamber of trade and commerce and set the ball rolling on this life-and-death question.

This brought great wrath down upon his head! Presidents of chambers who saw their position threatened were not averse to criticising his suggestions.

Legislation controlling the rights of chambers of trade and commerce passed in December 1956 made these provisions:

*Overall interests of businesses affiliated to the chamber should be protected.

*Business economics should be boosted.

*Authorities' work should be supported with suggestions, reports and appraisals.

*The honour and good name of reputable businessmen should be upheld.

Many changes have come about in the past fourteen years. Boosting the economics of the business world is today an enormous task. Reams of information flood in from all quarters and statistics and customs tariffs have to be evaluated promptly.

This is only possible if the right equipment, namely the computer, is available. The smaller chambers with 3,000 to 5,000 members can scarcely be expected to afford a computer.

It is a different story in the larger chambers such as Frankfurt with its 33,000 membership, of which 14,000 are entered in the trade register.

Smaller concerns pay only the basic membership fee of eighteen to 24 Marks annually, which nowhere near covers administrative costs.

On the other hand firms that are entered in the trade register pay 36 to fifty Marks plus additional levies of five to seven per cent of their corporation tax assessment.

In Lower Saxony administrative reform is proceeding and when it has reached the stage where the present eight governmental districts have been reduced to half that number, as is likely to happen in the not-too-distant future, then the chambers of trade and commerce will be affected by this.

In Lower Saxony a link has been forged between governmental districts and the province of chambers of trade and commerce. In the Rhineland-Palatinate there is a provisional ruling of this kind. At the moment there are three governmental districts there, but there are still four chambers of trade and commerce.

If and when Baden-Württemberg has been divided into twelve it is hard to imagine its continuing with its present nineteen chambers of trade and commerce.

Five planning divisions are to be created in the state of Hesse and here too the reaction upon the chambers of trade and commerce is likely to be felt immediately.

Thus we can see that a close relationship is being built up between local government division and the authority and scope of the chambers.

The five chambers of commerce in the south of Baden are responsible for the whole area of Baden-Württemberg. Can they continue to exist in this form? Freiburg, Constance, Ravensburg, Lahr and Schopfheim are small chambers of trade and commerce which are basically solid, but not strong enough to maintain the special position of south Baden.

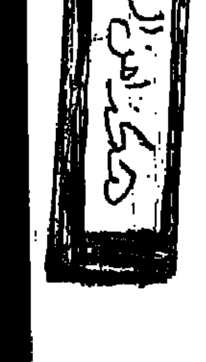
Study groups all over the country are working on ways of improving the efficiency of the chambers of trade and commerce. But from these groups within the DIHT all that has been said so far is that they are not yet ready to say anything.

Something must be done soon to bring the chambers in line with structural changes in the economy. If action is not soon taken on a voluntary basis by the chambers it will be forced on them and jeopardise their worthwhile position. No one who sees them as an effective organ of cooperation between the State and the economy can want this to happen.

There are 81 chambers of trade and commerce, which is too much of a good thing.

Joseph Maria Hunck

(Handelsblatt, 11 November 1970)

■ MOTORING

Women drivers are not as bad as they are reputed to be

Over the next few years one person in three buying a car for the first time will be a woman. The trend is certainly towards women between the ages of eighteen and 24 and 35 and 44 making the cash register ring.

The number of women car-owners in these age groups will treble, it is forecast. Already one learner driver in three is a woman.

One attempt has been made to design a car specially for women. Ghia of Turin unveiled his Vanessa at the 1966 Turin motor show. Vanessa, incidentally, is not only a Christian name. It almost means butterfly.

The prototype Fiat Vanessa 850 boasted a turntable driving-seat to enable the woman at the wheel to get in and out of her car elegantly and unblushingly.

There were children's safety belts. The right-hand rear window opened out in flap fashion to allow the woman motorist to extract groceries from the back seat without difficulty.

Even a pram could be stowed away in the Vanessa without needing to be folded up.

An elegantly designed cosmetics bag within easy reach of the wheel was ready and waiting for everything the fashion-conscious woman needs in the way of make-up.

The passenger compartment was like a boudoir, with violet as the dominant colour. The roof was plate glass and the boot, I nearly forgot to add, was divided into handy compartments.

Unfortunately the prototype remained the only Fiat Vanessa ever to be built. Women were not interested in the beautiful butterfly. Not that a number of female visitors to the 1966 Turin motor show were not delighted with the idea. But disenchantment soon set in.

Most women would not like to do without men altogether in their cars and although men have been known to feel quite at home in violet boudoirs they are unlikely to do so when the boudoir is cruising through traffic at thirty miles an hour. This, then, was why women have given the Vanessa the thumbs-down.

Do women need a car specially designed for their own sex? This is what two major motor manufacturers have to say on the subject. "Daimler-Benz Manufacture cars designed to be ideal for both men and women. Design engineers do not, of course, forget the little extras that mean so much for a woman — a make-up mirror in the sunshade, roomy glove compartments for odds and ends and a generous choice of bodywork colours and upholstery designs.

"Women's requirements of a motor car do not differ fundamentally from those of men," Volkswagen comment.

What do women want? A comprehensive market survey has been conducted on behalf of the motor industry and some of the conclusions are worth noting.

None of the sample favoured a car specially and exclusively designed for women. Eighty-seven per cent said that they would only consider buying a new car. Women are suspicions of used cars. Women take their time over buying. They shop around for a new car.

Ten women of between 25 and thirty and representing every walk of life tried their hand at the wheel on Nurbürgring racetrack. For purposes of comparison four men of the same age group also took part.

Each of them drove 300 kilometres by day and 300 kilometres by night in assembly-line cars and beforehand and afterwards two laps (roughly thirty miles) in a test car in which their pulse, blood pressure, the amount of air exhaled, its carbonic acis content and brain activity were measured. Reaction and concentration tests were also carried out.

What is more, samples of urine were taken and analysed for traces of chemicals bearing witness to tiredness. The purpose of the entire range of tests was to find out the answers to the following three questions, none of which had preiously been scientifically examined.

1. Do women react differently than men after sitting at the wheel for a long time (under identical conditions, of course)?

2. How does the female body respond to the physical and psychic strains of driving?

3. Who tires sooner, the man or the woman? And how do the two of them cope with the situation?

Tiredness and other physiological responses can definitely be measured. In order to grade performance at the wheel to a new unit of measurement consisting of the sum total of accelerations, gear changes and brakings and christened "drive" had to be invented.

The first, surprising upshot was that women had more drive than men. After three hours at the wheel the men's drive had fallen by eleven per cent, while the women's drive had increased by ten per cent.

This superiority was even more evident in long night-time runs. To start with the men drove better but after a mere two hours their circulation adjustment grew considerably worse and with it their driving.

After a warming-up period the women managed to remain alert even at the critical time of between two and three in the morning. What is more, the women proved instinctively to react rightly to the first signs of tiredness, switching the radio on, singing ot reciting a poem to keep themselves awake. Yet another feather in the women's cap was that in the simulator tests to determine how ready they were to take a risk the women were less daring and made fewer mistakes.

Women did, however, prove to be at a physiological disadvantage prior to or during menstruation. "Women reach peak efficiency," says gynaecologist Professor Heller, "in the week following menstruation.

"During the hormone changes prior to and the increased blood circulation in the part of the body affected during menstruation, not to mention the loss of blood, the female body cannot achieve peak performance.

"Often enough the period before menstruation is less favourable than during the process. Women with a regular monthly pattern are less prone to a 'low' than those with an irregular cycle."

Three out of four women only drive the family car for short distances over the weekend. Even then the other half in the co-driver's seat does his level best to make the wife nervous by making carping comments about her driving.

I have a small collection of laments by the wives of well-known people.

"Only when he is asleep " says the wife of motoring specialist Huschke von Hanstein, herself a first-rate rally driver "am I the greatest on four wheels. But he does let me drive a lot. I have to resign myself to being criticised, though."

Actress Senta Berger and her husband Michael Verhoeven have a different driving relationship. "Whenever one or other of us is at the wheel the other one starts butting in. Yet Michael reckons I am an excellent driver, honestly he does."

The wife of Chief Burgomaster Vogel of Munich has a far better time of it. "He leaves it to me when I am driving. My husband is an ideal passenger."

Hermann Harster

(WELT am SONNTAG, 8 November 1970)

Improved radio control at airports

Air safety facilities have been modernised to the tune of 159 million Marks this year. A further 240 million are to be invested next year. The main feature of improvements in and around control towers at airports in this country is the provision of secondary radar facilities in addition to the present all-round system.

Unlike normal radar used to plot the course of aircraft approaching along air corridors the secondary radar beam triggers off an automatic answering device built into all aircraft.

What this means is that airport control can not only observe the aircraft as a dot on the radar screen but can also identify it with absolute certainty among all the others. At a glance they can tell what kind of an aircraft it is, who operates it and what its destination is.

This makes control work a good deal easie, since the control officer no longer needs first to make radio contact with the crew. Secondary radar is also less prone to interference and is impervious to cloud and ground reflection.

Six major all-round radar systems have already been equipped with secondary radar and equipment for the remainder has been ordered.

The target of this expansion programme is to integrate civil and military aviation and so to guarantee complete coverage of air space. This includes exact control and coverage of all high-altitude air corridors as used by modern jets and, shortly, by supersonic transports.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 26 October 1970)

Laser rays for TV and telephonic communications

One of these days the entire flow of information of a large office block may pass simultaneously through a single thread of glass fibre thinner than a human hair.

The carrier will be a laser ray capable of transporting telephone calls, teleprinter messages, data and TV progammes yet will follow every turn made by the 0.05-mm cable. It is trapped in the core of the glass fibre by the laws of refraction.

As yet this super-cable does not exist but the AEG-Telefunken research engineers and scientists engaged in development work on it at Ulm are convinced that the remaining obstacles can be overcome.

At the firm's annual conference for science correspondents Dr Stephan Maslowski, head of the laser applications lab at Ulm, outlined expectations and problems involved to representatives of the press in Frankfurt.

Conventional glass fibres, through which, provided they are properly "bundled" a doctor can examine the inside of a patient's diaphragm, will not, for instance, do the trick.

The core of this fibre is thick enough for the light emission to pass through not in a straight line or curve but in an irregular zig-zag pattern because it is continually reflected to and fro between core and mantle. The result is time distortion, which makes it impossible to transmit information precisely in this way.

At the receiving end a few hundred metres away the light signal will be converted into an electrical impulse that can be isolated, amplified and passed on to the addressee or passed on down the line to the next repeater station.

Light-wave telecommunications would make undreamt-of connections possible. Telephone exchanges would be unnecessary. There would be videophones. TV sets would not need aerials. Computers could compare notes and computerised data banks be drawn on by private individuals.

And all this could be going on at one and the same time in a cable a kilometre of wich weighs five grammes (three and a half miles per ounce).

The transmission bandwidth of the new cable will in principle be the equivalent of a hundred or more TV channels. It is hoped in Ulm to set up the first trial sections in three years' time.

An eventual goal, Dr. Maslowski stated, is to pass messages from door to door, as it were, particularly in conurbations.

A computer technology use the Ulm boffins are examining at the moment is far more futuristic. A procedure they have developed is claimed to enable computer data to be stored on film instead of on tape. If this proves possible storage will be a thousand times more compact.

A film of the required kind, coated in an absolutely grainless emulsion sensitive to ultra-violet light, is said to be able to house as much data on a 100-metre spool as 300 magnetic tapes one kilometre long.

Every second ten million dots would have to be written on the emulsion with the aid of a pencil beam powered by laser.

This work on laser applications is part of a research programme involving expenditure per working day to the tune of two million Marks and more.

Dr Hans Gröbe, board chairman of AEG-Telefunken, informed the assembled company at the beginning of the conference that the group's research expenditure for 1969 and 1970 would amount to roughly 1,000 million Marks.

This is not the case with the laser communications cable, in which the core is only a thousandth of a millimetre wide.

An urgent search is in progress for a glass material that is as flawless and translucent as possible even when drawn to the thickness of a spider's web.

Work on this new mode of telecommunications is under way in America, Britain and Japan and in the United States a form of glass is said already to have been discovered that has an extremely low dampening effect.

If scientist's hopes are fulfilled semiconductor lasers will be generating a beam of light that is modulated by telecommunications signals and fed to glass fibre cable before the end of this decade.

(Kolner Stadt-Anzeiger, 7 November 1970)

